

Appln No. 10/559,604
Amdt date January 19, 2010
Reply to Office action of October 19, 2009

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A multifunctional support for a motor vehicle having a vehicle longitudinal axis, the multifunctional support comprising:

a retaining section configured to fasten to an assembly support of a motor vehicle door;
an elongated window guide connected to the retaining section for guiding a window pane; and

fastening points configured for fastening a door lock to the multifunctional support;
wherein the retaining section is connected to the window guide along a longitudinally extended subsection defined by a portion of the retaining section and a portion of the window guide, the longitudinally extended subsection having two terminal zones and an extension direction between the two terminal zones;

wherein the retaining section in one terminal zone of the longitudinally extended subsection is connected substantially rigidly to the window guide and the retaining section in the other terminal zone of the longitudinally extended subsection is connected flexibly to the window guide; [[and]]

wherein the flexible connection in the other terminal zone of the subsection comprises at least one deformable region, the deformable region being deformable along the vehicle longitudinal axis and thus enabling a longitudinal displacement of the retaining section relative to the window guide along the vehicle longitudinal axis and perpendicular to the extension direction of the subsection between the two terminal zones of the subsection; and

wherein the retaining section and the window guide are formed as a continuous one-piece part.

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2. (Currently Amended) The multifunctional support according to claim 1 ~~comprising,~~
wherein at least one of the fastening point for the door lock is in the vicinity of the other terminal zone of the longitudinally extended subsection.
3. (Currently Amended) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, wherein ~~a recess is provided along the extension direction of the~~ longitudinally extended subsection comprises a recess between the two terminal zones ~~of the subsection.~~
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, wherein the deformable region is formed on at least one of the retaining section and the window guide.
6. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, wherein the deformable region is integrated in one piece with the retaining section.
7. (Currently Amended) The multifunctional support according to claim ~~[[1]]~~28, wherein the retaining section and the window guide are formed in one piece with each other.
8. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, wherein the retaining section and the window guide are made of plastic.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)

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11. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, wherein the retaining section is movable relative to the window guide in an installed state along at least one of the vehicle longitudinal axis and a horizontal vehicle transverse axis.

12. (Currently Amended) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, wherein the fastening points comprise two fastening points~~are provided~~, one on each side of the deformable region.

13. (Currently Amended) The multifunctional support according to claim 12, wherein [[one]]one of the fastening points for the door lock is provided on the retaining section and the other one of the fastenings point is provided on the window guide.

14. (Currently Amended) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, wherein a first fastening point for the door lock provides a play connection so that when the door lock is fastened to the multifunctional support, the door lock has restricted movement relative to ~~this~~ the first fastening point and a second fastening point for the door lock provides a rigid connection of the door lock to the multifunctional support.

15. (Currently Amended) The multifunctional support according to claim 14, wherein [[the]]the first fastening point for the door lock has a sliding guide so that when the door lock is fastened to the multifunctional support, the door lock is displaceable relative to this fastening point and has a detent element which forms a stop.

16. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 14, wherein the two fastening points are arranged on regions which deform differently.

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17. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 14, wherein a recess is provided along the extension direction of the subsection between the two terminal zones of the subsection, and wherein the first fastening point projects over the recess.

18. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, wherein the window guide has two fastening locations, spaced out from each other along the extension direction of the subsection for fastening on a door body, wherein the fastening locations lie, respectively, in opposite end regions of the elongated window guide.

19. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 18, wherein a fastening point for fastening the door lock is mounted between the two fastening locations for fastening the window guide on the door body.

20. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 19, wherein the fastening point for the door lock placed between the two fastening locations for the window guide comprises a flat contact surface against the door lock so that forces are transferable to the door body through the combination of the window guide and the door lock.

21. (Currently Amended) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, wherein fastening points are provided for a security cover for covering regions of [[a]]the door lock when the door lock is fastened to the multifunctional support.

22. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, wherein a bearing section is formed for a holder of an outside handle of a door.

23. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 22, wherein fastening points for the holder of an outside handle of the door are flexibly linked to the bearing section.

24. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, comprising at least one holder for an electric cable.
25. (Previously Presented) The multifunctional support according to claim 1, further comprising a guide that is arranged for introducing a window pane into a guide channel of the window guide.
26. (Currently Amended) The multifunctional support according to claim 25, wherein the guide channel has a sliding guide having a free end ~~held widened out~~maintained in a wide configuration by the guide for insertion of a window pane in the guide channel.
27. (Canceled)
28. (Currently Amended) A multifunctional support for a motor vehicle comprising:
a retaining section to fasten to an assembly support of a motor vehicle door;
an elongated window guide connected to the retaining section for guiding a window pane; and
fastening points configured for fastening a door lock to the multifunctional support;
wherein the retaining section is connected to the window guide along a longitudinally extended subsection defined by a portion of the retaining section and a portion of the window guide, the longitudinally extended subsection having two terminal zones;
wherein the retaining section in one terminal zone of the longitudinally extended subsection is connected substantially rigidly to the window guide and the retaining section in the other terminal zone of the longitudinally extended subsection is connected flexibly to the window guide;
wherein the flexible connection in the other terminal zone of the subsection comprises at least one deformable region;

wherein two fastening points are provided for the door lock, one on each side of the deformable region so that the deformable region is located between the two fastening points;

wherein one fastening point for the door lock is provided on the retaining section and one fastening point is provided on the window guide; [[and]]

wherein one fastening point for the door lock has a sliding guide so that the door lock is displaceable relative to this fastening point; and

wherein two fastening points are located on laterally opposite sides of the window guide.

29. (New) The multifunctional support according to claim 28, wherein when a door lock is fastened to the multifunctional support, the door lock is movably fastened at one fastening point and at the same time rigidly fastened at the other fastening point.

30. (New) A multifunctional support for a motor vehicle having a vehicle longitudinal axis, the multifunctional support comprising:

a retaining section configured to fasten to an assembly support of a motor vehicle door;

an elongated window guide connected to the retaining section for guiding a window pane; and

fastening points configured for fastening a door lock to the multifunctional support;

wherein the retaining section is connected to the window guide along a longitudinally extended subsection defined by portions of the retaining section and portions of the window guide, the longitudinally extended subsection having two terminal zones and an extension direction between the two terminal zones;

wherein the retaining section in one terminal zone of the longitudinally extended subsection is connected substantially rigidly to the window guide and the retaining section in the other terminal zone of the longitudinally extended subsection is connected flexibly to the window guide;

wherein the flexible connection in the other terminal zone of the subsection comprises at least one deformable region, the deformable region being deformable along the vehicle

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longitudinal axis and thus enabling a longitudinal displacement of the retaining section relative to the window guide along the vehicle longitudinal axis and perpendicular to the extension direction of the subsection between the two terminal zones of the subsection; and

wherein the retaining section is configured to deflect relative to the window guide at the other terminal zone, and wherein a substantially rigid link at the one terminal zone wherein the retaining section is substantially rigidly connected to the window guide acts as a fulcrum when the retaining section deflects relative to the window guide at the other terminal zone.